Docket No.: 248213US0

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRADES RE APPLICATION OF:

KENZO YOKOZEKI, ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION

SERIAL NO: 10/775,178

FILED: FEBRUARY 11, 2004

FOR: NOVEL PEPTIDE-FORMING ENZYME, MICROBE PRODUCING THE

ENZYME AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING PEPTIDE USING THEM

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Communication mailed May 17, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this response.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this response.